(b) No, Sir.

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(c) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has taken up major research programmes for preservation of crops and fruits in different 1CAR Institutes and through All India Coordinated Research Projects operating in the State Agricultural Universities with the following objectives .'■—

1. To develop improved techniques for handling, storage, packaging, transportation and processing to improve shelf life of the fruits ; and

2. To develop low cost techniques to minimise harvest and post-harvest losses and production of value added products from cereals, pulses and oilseed crops.

Refund of Money Deposited with HUDA

1361. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Gurgaon, comes within the National Capital Region Plan and thousands of Delhites apply for plots sought to be sold by HUDA ;

(b) whether crores of rupees of residents of Delhi had been deposited with HUDA for the draw held last month ;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to take with Haryana Government the matter of refund of money of unsuccessful depositors so that the money it, received by them at an early date ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MOHS1NA KIDWAI) : (a) to (d) Guigaon comes within the National Capital Region. The refund of earnest money wherever due is the responsibility of the Government of Haryana/HUDA.

Lapses in supplies of controlled cloth to the State of Sikkim by NCCF

1362. SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV: SHRI V1RENDPA VERMA

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that although lapse by some officers of NCCF have been established in supplying 1800 bales of controlled cloth to the State of Sikkim as against its normal quota of 48 bales, no disciplinary action has been taken against them by NCCF ; and

(b) if so, what disciplinary action Government propose to take against each NCCF officials and by when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI SUKH RAM) : (a) ard (b). The case was investigated by the CBI which did not find involvement j of any officer of NCCF in **the** | irregularities. However NCCF have initiated minor penalty proceedings against one Assistant

Manager

Wastage of Fruits **and Vegetables due to Improper Post Harvest handling**

1363. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item which appeared in the Times of India of the 21-2-1989 wherein it has been stated that fruits and vegetables worth Rs. 3,000 crores are wasted every year due to improper post harvest handling ;

(b) if so, the quantity of fruits and vegetables wasted during the last three years, year wise and the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what steps have since been taken by Government to avoid such wastage ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERRATIONT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No official estimates are available.

(c) A separate Department of Food Processing Industry has been established to encourage food processing. The National Horticulture Board is implementing schemes for reducing post harvest losses. A Central Cold Storage facility with grading and packing facilities has been established by National dairy Development Board under which 135 outlets for distribution of fruits and vegetables in Delhi have been set up.

Margin of Profit in **Determining** Prices of Agricultural **Produce**

1364. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA :
ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Agriculture Price Commission determines the prices of agricultural products keeping a margin of 12% to 15% profit; and

(b) if so, the names of areas and crops where the farmers during the last year have got that much of profit keeping in view the labour of his family members and others, the interest on his investment and other liabilities that he had to incur during the farming period of the crop ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b) With a view to evolve a balanced and intergrated price structure in the perspective of the overall needs *of* the economy and with due regard to the interests of the producer and the consumer, the Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices while recommending the level of procurements minimum support price takes into account not only a comprehensive overview of the entire structure of the economy of a particular commodity but also a number of important factors including cost *of* production. The price fixed covers not only cost of production